

consider themselves pro-life. But the one thing that we both agree on is preventing women and teens from having unintended pregnancies and having an abortion. To succeed, we must provide education to young women about their bodies and about preventing pregnancies and STDs. I always say education is the key. We know that education works—rates of unintended pregnancies among teens have greatly declined as well as the number of abortions being performed. Yet, we have not done enough. In 2000, there were approximately 18.9 million new cases of STDs in the United States including an increase in HIV-AIDS.

The reproductive health of women should be a public health priority for our Nation. Although, I believe abstinence should be taught and stressed—it is not a reality for many of our young people. Family planning programs must be available to all women—young, older, poor, middle class, those with private insurance or on Medicaid. Again, I commend the pro-choice caucus for offering legislation that focuses on keeping abortion legal, safe, and rare with proper education and preventive health care services.

HONORING NOVA CHEMICALS, INC.

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Nova Chemicals, Inc., a chemical manufacturer located in Monaca, Pennsylvania, recently honored by Toyota Motor Manufacturing of North America, Inc. as a top supplier for 2003. It is truly an honor to have an industry leader in my district.

Annually, the Toyota Motor Manufacturing of North America, Inc. acknowledges those suppliers who have met their highest standards in quality, delivery, supplier diversity and value improvements for parts, materials, and transportation. Toyota is strongly committed to buying from local sources for U.S. manufacturing operations—currently, Toyota buys from 500 U.S. suppliers. By the year 2006, Toyota will have the capacity to build 1.66 million cars and trucks a year and 1.29 million engines in North America.

Nova Chemicals, Inc.'s Beaver Valley facility was recognized for both quality and delivery during this year's 2004 Supplier Awards Ceremony at Toyota's Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony. Since the company's start in 1954, it has grown into a multi-billion-dollar corporation and is now North America's largest producer of polystyrene. Furthermore, Nova Chemicals, Inc. is an active participant in the local communities where their facilities are based—not only do they provide financial improvements to the communities they join but they also improve the social surrounding as well.

I ask that all the members in the House of Representatives join with me in honoring this outstanding company based within the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. I am pleased to represent this award winning chemical manufacturer.

TRIBUTE TO MS. LAUREN LINCOLN

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding, young American, Ms. Lauren Lincoln. Ms. Lincoln created, from the ground up, a Rainbow Winter Guard team for Special Olympians in Rochester, New York. This is a great accomplishment for any individual, but what makes Lauren's situation unique is she is just 16 years of age.

Lauren Lincoln, a resident of Irondequoit, New York, first developed the idea of creating a color guard after attending an exhibition by Special Olympians in Dayton, Ohio, last year. She quickly transformed this idea into reality after conversations with local Special Olympic officials. By September of 2003, the newly formed Rainbow Winter Guard was having weekly practices and on October 13, 2003, had their first official performance.

In addition to the creation and training of the Special Olympians, Lauren has managed the administrative tasks that accompany such an endeavor. She developed a budget, created a practice and performance schedule and raised monies to fund the costs of maintaining the program.

Mr. Speaker, Lauren Lincoln is one example of many exceptional youths who are displaying altruistic dedication to the public good. She is a model for all Americans and I commend her achievements.

INTRODUCING THE KNOW YOUR VOTE COUNTS ACT OF 2004

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the Know Your Vote Counts Act of 2004, legislation which will amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require voting systems to print a paper record for each ballot that the voter can verify for accuracy before the ballot is cast. This makes a recount possible in the event that a state determines one is needed. Without a paper trail, a recount is impossible.

Current law permits precincts to print ballots for the first time after the polls have closed. Therefore, voters might never get to see their ballots. This creates a risk that the computer record may differ from the voter's true intentions, without the voter ever knowing. Moreover, computer malfunctions or insider hacking might occur between the time of voting and printout, defeating the goal of the paper record requirement. The Know Your Vote Counts Act eliminates these possibilities by clarifying to states that a ballot must be printed at the time of each vote, thus ensuring the achievement of HAVA's goal of electoral integrity.

Electronic voting systems are supposed to increase voter confidence in election results. Without this safeguard, they seem to do anything but. A prominent fear has developed that these machines will facilitate a cyber version of dumping ballot boxes in the river. Software could be set to record votes with no regard to

how the votes were actually cast. It is instructive that the Pentagon scrapped an Internet voting project because officials there determined there was no way they could guarantee that voting records could be kept secure. This issue should be a major concern for all of us.

The new Election Assistance Commission has plans to disburse \$2.3 billion as early as next month to states for technology upgrades in voting equipment. Complying only with the upgrades required under current law, however, poses future problems for states. Presently, states could purchase machines without the capability of printing ballots for the voter to verify for accuracy.

States have already experienced problems that illustrate the problems created by voting machines without an auditable paper record. In Indiana, a glitch resulted in 5,352 voters casting 144,000 votes. Virginia machines subtracted votes rather than adding them to a candidate's total in some cases. In Florida, 10,844 votes were cast; candidate won by 12 votes, but there were 137 under-votes. Florida state law requires a manual recount of all under-votes in a race with this tight a margin, but no paper trail was available and the recount was impossible. A recent study of Maryland electronic voting machines found that they were all equipped with one of two locks, which keys to the other machines could open. Finally, in Georgia, on Super Tuesday, ten voting terminals were found sitting in the lobby of a Georgia Tech building unattended, in unlocked cases. These machines easily could have been altered during this time.

This legislation protects the integrity of electronic voting systems by requiring a voter-verified paper audit record for each ballot. The voter can verify the ballot at that time, and the paper record created can be used if state determines that recount is needed. To preserve ballot secrecy and prevent voter intimidation, this bill prohibits voters from copying or removing the record from a polling place. The Know Your Vote Counts Act respects principles of federalism and defers to state law, allowing states to make their own decisions about when to require recounts while preventing computer error or deliberate fraud from altering election outcomes.

This is not a partisan issue. It is an American issue. All Americans must know that their votes count. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor the Know Your Vote Counts Act of 2004 in the 108th Congress so that we can ensure that the votes cast are the votes counted.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SPC. JUSTIN REDIFER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise and pay tribute to an outstanding patriot from my home state of Colorado. Army Specialist Justin Redifer recently returned from serving our nation in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and in recognition of his actions, was awarded a Bronze Star with a distinction for valor. This incredible honor is a testament to Justin's courage and bravery, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize him before this body of Congress and this nation today.